

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 167770

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, CB, VS

SUBJECT: PAROLE PROGRAM FOR CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE
REFUGEES

LIMDIS

FOR THE AMBASSADOR (HONGKONG FOR THE CONSUL GENERAL) FROM
JULIA TAFT, DIRECTOR, INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE

1. AS WE INDICATED TO YOU IN SATE 158799, WE ARE ABOUT TO
RECEIVE FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL EXPANDED AUTHORITY TO
PAROLE VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS INTO THE UNITED STATES.
THIS PAROLE, WE EXPECT, WILL BE EXTENDED TO A MAXIMUM OF
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12 THOUSAND MORE INDIVIDUALS FROM AMONG THE ESTIMATED 18,000

TO 20,000 STRANDED IN ASIA AND ELSEWHERE.

2. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE NOW MOVE SWIFTLY WITH HOST AND THIRD COUNTRIES TO RESOLVE THE STATUS OF THESE REMAINING REFUGEES. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO CONSIDER AND COMMENT ON HOW BEST TO:

A) APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS AND TIE DOWN ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL PERMIT THE MAXIMUM RESETTLEMENT FOR REFUGEES ABROAD, WHILE US TAKES ITS SHARE.

B) COORDINATE WITH THIRD COUNTRIES AND THEIR EMBASSIES IN ASIA, UNHCR, ICEM AND ELSEWHERE SO THAT WE DO NOT BRING TO THE US REFUGEES THEY ARE PLANNING TO RESETTLE.

C) COORDINATE EFFORTS WITH UNHCR AND ICEM REGARDING REFUGEE MOVEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT IN THIRD COUNTRIES. UNHCR HAS A GENEVA BASED MISSION PRESENTLY IN THAILAND AND IS DISCUSSING WITH THE RTG WAYS TO RELOCATE INDO-CHINA REFUGEES.

3. POSTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT WE DO NOT PLAN FOR ANY FURTHER EXTENSION OF PAROLE FOR CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. THE EXECUTION OF THIS PROGRAM WILL BE THE LAST STAGE IN THE US EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT OF CAMBODIANS AND VIETNAMESE.

4. AFTER COMPLETING SECURITY CLEARANCES AND PRE-PAROLE PROCESSING WE CAN ACCEPT UP TO 1,250 REFUGEES PER WEEK FROM ADDRESSEE COUNTRIES. (250 MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE, 500 THAILAND, 300 HONG KONG, 100 EACH KOREA, TAIPEI.) THEY WOULD PROCEED DIRECTLY FROM PORT OF EMBARKATION TO EITHER FORT CHAFFEE OR CAMP PENDLETON (BYPASSING GUAM). MANIFESTS BY EACH COUNTRY WOULD BE REQUIRED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE, SO THAT ICEM COULD ARRANGE MOST COST EFFECTIVE TRANSPORTATION.

5. IN CASE OF THOSE LAO REFUGEES WHOM WE EXPECT WILL SOON BE ABLE TO BE PAROLED INTO US, WE WOULD PLAN TO HAVE THEM REMAIN IN THAILAND OR OTHER COUNTRIES UNTIL VOLUNTARY

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AGENCIES CAN OBTAIN SPONSORS IN US. THEY WOULD THEN BE FLOWN DIRECTLY TO SPONSOR LOCATIONS. AS MENTIONED STATE 158901 EMBASSY BANGKOK SHOULD COMMENT ON FEASIBILITY DISCUSSING WITH RTG PACKAGE PROGRAM FOR ALL REFUGEES IN THAILAND. THIS WOULD INCLUDE US OR OTHER COUNTRIES TAKING ALL VIETNAMESE ALONG WITH CAMBODIAN AND LAO LEADERS, WHILE THAI AGREE TO RESETTLE OTHER CAMBODIANS AND LAO, INCLUDING MEO AND BLACK THAI, WITH US PROVIDING SOME FINANCIAL SUP-

PORT, PROBABLY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

6. IATF PLANS TO SEND A THREE-MAN INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE TEAM BEGINNING WEEK OF JULY 21 TO HONG KONG, BANGKOK, KUALA LUMPUR AND SINGAPORE TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC ISSUES AND PROBLEMS. COMPOSITION AND ITINERARY OF TEAM BY SEPTTEL. KISSINGER

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